

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SECTO 28005 290156Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-07 OES-06 DLOS-06

/085 W

----- 040617

O R 290110Z SEP 76 ZFF-6

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 28005

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, ENRG, PLOS, PBOR

SUBJ: GREEK-TURKISH MEETING ON AEGEAN

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF GREEK MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JOHN TZOUNIS, GAVE EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN OVERVIEW OF FIRST CAGLAYANGIL/BITSIOS MEETING ON AEGEAN, WHICH WAS HELD IN NEW YORK AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 27. TZOUNIS WAS HESITANT ABOUT CHARACTERIZING MEETING AS SUCCESS OR FAILURE, BUT SAID ONE AND A HALF HOUR SESSION HAD PRODUCED LIVELY GIVE AND TAKE, AND THAT FURTHER MINISTERIAL MEETING WAS NOW FIXED FOR FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1.

2. TZOUNIS SAID GREEK SIDE HAD ENTERED SESSION IN QUEST OF ANSWERS TO TWO FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS: A) WERE TURKS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY ABOUT SUBSTANTIVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SECTO 28005 290156Z

AEGEAN ISSUES AND B) WERE THE TURKS CAPABLE, GIVEN

THEIR DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION, IN PURSUING SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. THE TURKISH RESPONSE TO THE FIRST QUESTION WAS AFFIRMATIVE. AS FOR THE SECOND, CAGLAYANGIL CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES IN TURKEY, BUT INDICATED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BEGIN AND THAT HE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD DO ITS BEST TO MAKE THEM SUCCESSFUL. CAGLAYANGIL ALSO NOTED THAT THERE WAS OFTEN UTILITY IN NEGOTIATING WHETHER OR NOT ONE CAME TO AN EARLY AGREED SOLUTION.

3. CORE OF MEETING DEVOLVED AROUND FAMILIAR THEMES. TZOUNIS SAID FIRST QUESTION WAS WHETHER TO CONSIDER THE AEGEAN SEPARATELY OR WHETHER TO TAKE UP THE ENTIRE GREEK-TURKISH DOSSIER OF ISSUES. BOTH SIDES AGREED TO SEPARATE OUT THE AEGEAN QUESTION. IT WAS DECIDED THAT A FURTHER MEETING SHOULD BE SCHEDULED ON THE AIR OVERFLIGHT AND CLEARANCE PROBLEM. THE GREEKS THEN PROPOSED THAT SUSTAINED NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE AEGEAN DELINEATION ISSUES. CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER THIS AND ANSWER BITSIOS ON OCTOBER 1.

4. DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR DISCUSSION, CAGLAYANGIL AGAIN ASKED BITSIOS TO WITHDRAW THE GREEK APPLICATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. TZOUNIS MADE CLEAR THAT THE GREEKS DID NOT WANT TO WITHDRAW THE CASE, THOUGH THEY NOW RECOGNIZED THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ICJ PROCEDURES, A SIMPLE SUSPENSION WAS NOT POSSIBLE. WHAT WAS POSSIBLE WAS TO WORK OUT AN EXTENDED DELAY, IN PRESENTING THE OPPOSING MEMORANDA WHICH THE COURT WOULD REQUEST IN CONNECTION WITH ITS CONSIDERATION OF JURISDICTION. TZOUNIS SAID FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS PROPOSED THAT WHEN THE GREEK SIDE RECEIVES THIS COURT REQUEST, THEY WOULD ASK FOR A SIX-MONTH DELAY, TO WHICH COULD BE TACKED ON A FURTHER 90-DAY EXTENSION. THE TURKS COULD REQUEST SIMILAR DELAYS AMOUNTING TO NINE MONTHS. THUS, A DELAY OF AS MUCH AS 18 MONTHS COULD BE OBTAINED THROUGH THIS PROCEDURE, IF BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY AGREED TO PLAY THE GAME. CAGLAYANGIL WAS NONCOMMITTAL, SAYING ONLY HE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SECTO 28005 290156Z

WISHED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH HIS LEGAL ADVISER WHO WOULD BE ARRIVING ON THURSDAY.

5. TZOUNIS SAID THERE WAS ALSO AN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SISMIK BASED ON A STATEMENT OF THE TURKISH RESOURCE MINISTER, WHO APPARENTLY SAID RECENTLY THAT THE SISMIK MIGHT SAIL AGAIN IN APRIL. BITSIOS REFERRED TO THIS STATEMENT AND REAFFIRMED THE GREEK POSITION

THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD NOT BE CONDUCTED WHILE EXPLORATIONS WERE UNDER WAY. HE THEN PROPOSED A MORATORIUM ON EXPLORATIONS BY BOTH SIDES SO LONG AS NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED. THIS MATTER TOO WAS LEFT OPEN FOR DISCUSSION ON FRIDAY.

6. TZOUNIS AFFIRMED THAT THE GREEKS WANTED BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON SUBSTANCE TO BE ESTABLISHED QUICKLY AND TO RUN ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS. THERE WAS NO POINT IN HAVING A TWO-DAY MEETING AND SCHEDULING ANOTHER ONE TWO MONTHS LATER. THE TECHNICIANS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TOGETHER AND KEPT TOGETHER UNTIL THEY HAMMERED OUT A PROPOSAL TO GOVERNMENTS. TZOUNIS NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT THE GREEKS WERE NO LONGER TALKING ABOUT A BEGIN UNDERLINE COMPROMISE END UNDERLINE TO THE ICJ, BUT WERE PREPARED TO REACH A SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT ON ALL OPEN ISSUES CONNECTED WITH THE DELIMITATION OF THE AEGEAN. THIS WAS WHAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAD SUGGESTED AND THIS IS THE PROCEDURE THE GREEKS WERE NOW PREPARED TO FOLLOW. THE DELIMITATION MUST, HOWEVER, BE BASED ON POLITICAL AND GEO-POLITICAL FACTORS. JOINT EXPLORATION AND JOINT-USE VENTURES OF ALL KINDS MUST FLOW FROM THE BASIC DECISION ON DELIMITATION, AND CANNOT PRECEDE IT, IN THE GREEK VIEW.

7. TZOUNIS CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY INDICATING THAT HE REMAINED SKEPTICAL THAT A REAL NEGOTIATING PROCESS COULD BE STARTED. THE TURKS SIMPLY DID NOT WANT TO NEGOTIATE; THEIR INTENTION WAS INTIMIDATION. THIS SAID TZOUNIS WAS HIS GLOOMY VIEW BASED ON 8 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH AEGEAN QUESTIONS. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECTO, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS, AEGEAN SEA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SECTO28005
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760366-0618
From: SECRETARY USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976097/aaaaafnj.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREEK-TURKISH MEETING ON AEGEAN
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, PLOS, PBOR, GR, TU, (CAGLAYANGIL, IHSAN), (BITSIOS, DIMITRIOS)
To: STATE ANKARA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006